

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Divisional of Serial No. 09/237,237

Attorney Docket No.: Q75737

**REMARKS**

Claims 14-20 are all of the claims currently pending in this application after entry of the foregoing amendments. Claims 1-13, which are allowed in parent application Serial No. 09/237,237, are hereby cancelled from the instant application, which is a divisional of the prior application. New claims 17-20 are added to obtain more varied protection for the invention.

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested, and an examination on the merits in due course is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees due to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE



**23373**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel V. Williams", written in black ink.

Daniel V. Williams  
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Date: July 3, 2003

**APPENDIX**

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**The specification is changed as follows:**

**Page 1, before line 1, the following has been inserted:**

This is a divisional of application Serial No. 09/237,237 filed January 26, 1999, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Claims 1-13 are cancelled without prejudice and/or disclaimer.**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

14. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a cable [according to claim 11, in which,]  
comprising:

[starting from] covering an inside surface of a strip of metal [covered over its inside surface] with [the] a catalyst substance[,];

forming the strip of metal [is formed so as to impart the] in a shape of a tube [to it,];

[the] inserting optical conductor(s) and a filler material [are inserted] into the tube[,]; and

swaging the formed tube [is swaged] after it has been welded.

15. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a cable [according to claim 12, in which,]  
comprising:

[starting from] covering an inside surface of a strip of metal [covered over its inside  
surface] with [the] a catalyst substance[,];

covering [with] the catalyst substance [being itself covered] with a hydrogen-absorbent  
substance[,];

forming the strip of metal [is formed so as to impart the] in a shape of a tube [to it], by  
mutually overlapping [the] longitudinal margins of the strip of metal[,];

and [the] gluing the overlapping margins [are glued].

16. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 15, in which the layer of hydrogen-  
absorbent substance is used for the gluing.

**New claims 17-20 are added.**